

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA  
MISSOULA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

BRAXTON ALAN NORWOOD,

Defendant.

CR 23-35-M-DLC

ORDER

Before the Court is United States Magistrate Judge Kathleen L. DeSoto's Findings & Recommendation Concerning Plea. (Doc. 37.) Because neither party objected, they are not entitled to *de novo* review. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); *United States v. Reyna-Tapia*, 328 F.3d 1114, 1121 (9th Cir. 2003). Therefore, the Court reviews the Findings and Recommendation for clear error. *McDonnell Douglas Corp. v. Commodore Bus. Mach., Inc.*, 656 F.2d 1309, 1313 (9th Cir. 1981). Clear error exists if the Court is left with a "definite and firm conviction that a mistake has been committed." *United States v. Syrax*, 235 F.3d 422, 427 (9th Cir. 2000).

Norwood is charged with one count of falsification of records in a federal investigation, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1519, as set forth in the Superseding Information. (Doc. 34.) Judge DeSoto recommends that this Court accept Norwood's guilty plea as to the sole count after Norwood appeared before her

pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11. The Court finds no clear error in Judge DeSoto's Findings and Recommendation and adopts them in full, including the recommendation to defer acceptance of the Plea Agreement until sentencing when the Court will have reviewed the Plea Agreement and Presentence Investigation Report.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that Judge DeSoto's Findings and Recommendation (Doc. 37) is ADOPTED in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Norwood's motion to change plea (Doc. 29) is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Norwood is adjudged guilty as charged in the sole count of the Superseding Information.

DATED this 12th day of July, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana L. Christensen, District Judge  
United States District Court